

Boynton Beach's Energy Edge Rebate Program

Locally-funded Weatherization

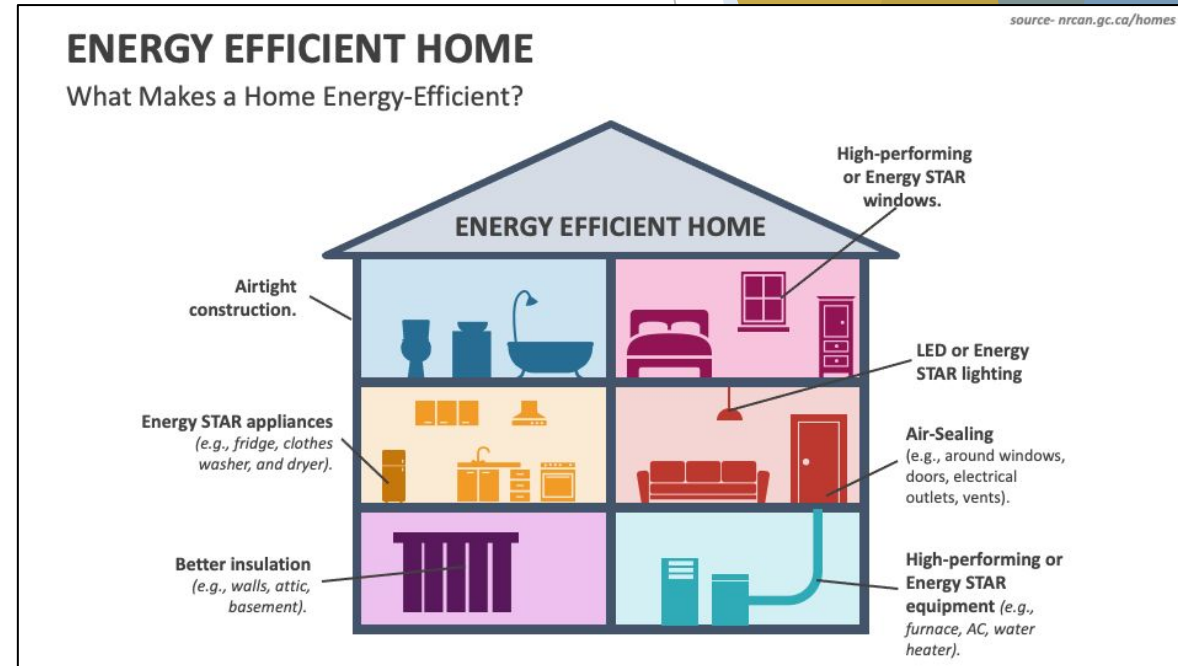
City of Boynton Beach Utilities Department
Office of Sustainability & Resiliency

**Southeast Florida Regional
Climate Change Compact
RCAP Implementation Workshop
Advancing Private Property
Resilience, Risk Reduction, and
Sustainability**

May 28, 2025

Overview

- ▶ What is the Energy Edge Rebate Program?
- ▶ Program Goals
- ▶ Eligibility
- ▶ Funding
- ▶ Green Building/Sustainable Communities Fund
- ▶ How Energy Edge is Helping Residents
- ▶ Future Plans



What is the Energy Edge Rebate Program?

- ▶ Local incentive program to help residents improve their home energy efficiency and climate resilience
- ▶ Provides financial rebates to eligible homeowners who install qualified improvements, including:
 - ▶ Energy Star-certified appliances
 - ▶ High-efficiency HVAC
 - ▶ Solar panels
 - ▶ Insulation and reflective roofing
 - ▶ Impact doors and windows
- ▶ Aims to reduce energy consumption, lower utility bills, and ensure homes are better equipped to withstand climate-related stressor like extreme heat and hurricanes



Energy Edge Rebate Program Goals

- ▶ Reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions
- ▶ Encourage homeowners to invest in property upgrades that make their homes more resilient to climate hazards like hurricanes, extreme heat, and flooding
- ▶ Lower utility bills and insurance premiums for residents, while increasing long-term property value and market appeal
- ▶ Inform and empower homeowners to make climate-smart decisions by connecting them with technical and financial resources
- ▶ Ensure all residents, especially low-to-moderate income households, have access to financial assistance for improving home resilience
- ▶ Contribute to citywide sustainability goals



Eligibility

- ▶ To be eligible for the Energy Edge Rebate Program, participants must:
 - ▶ Own a building within City limits that is at least 10 years old (10 years from date of building's original permit application); not required for solar PV and EVSE
 - ▶ Reside in the building as your primary place of residence **or** have a business that is the principal occupant of the building
 - ▶ Not offer the building for sale or lease within one year after completing the work
 - ▶ Hire a licensed contractor to complete the work
- ▶ Residents can receive up to \$1,500 in rebates in a 10-year period



Funding

- ▶ Funded through the City's Green Building Program via the Green Building Fee
- ▶ The Green Building Fee was established for **all** construction permits (residential, commercial, and industrial) and is incorporated into the Building Division's fee schedule
- ▶ Current fee: 0.05% of the total construction value listed in the permit application
- ▶ Fees are deposited into the Green Building/Sustainable Communities Fund



Green Building/Sustainable Communities Fund

- ▶ The fund was established as part of the Green Building Program to help promote green building practices and help enhance the sustainability of the City, including the Energy Edge Rebate Program
- ▶ Funds can be used for public and private sustainability initiatives, including:
 - ▶ Incentive funding for green building certification, energy and water efficiency, and renewable energy in private buildings
 - ▶ Expansion of EV infrastructure, bicycle/pedestrian facilities, or transit options for community use
 - ▶ Incentive funding for private-sector recycling, composting, or waste reduction activities
 - ▶ Development of green infrastructure, including canopy trees, living shorelines, green roofs, green walls, vertical gardens, bioswales, or rain gardens
 - ▶ Education, training, and outreach to the public and private sectors
- ▶ The City currently budgets ~\$50,000 a year for Energy Edge rebates



How Energy Edge is Helping Residents

- ▶ Reducing vulnerability to wind damage and extreme heat
- ▶ Addresses transitional risks
 - ▶ Improves home values and insurability
 - ▶ Makes homes more attractive in a climate-conscious market
- ▶ Educating and empowering residents
 - ▶ Serves as an outreach and educational tool
 - ▶ Encourages proactive, informed homeowner decisions
 - ▶ Builds a culture of preparedness
- ▶ Demonstrates a collaborative framework (i.e., shared responsibility model)
 - ▶ City provides the platform, guidance, and financial incentives; homeowners stake proactive steps to improve properties
 - ▶ Can serve as a case study for successful local adaptation initiatives fostering meaningful behavioral change



Future Plans

- ▶ Evaluate current program
 - ▶ Explore additional rebate opportunities, such as air sealing, lighting, other appliances, etc.
 - ▶ Increase rebate thresholds, if practical
- ▶ Development of a water conservation rebate program modeled similarly to Energy Edge
- ▶ Expanding the Energy Edge Rebate Program to commercial/industrial customers within the City limits
- ▶ Overhaul of the City's Green Business Recognition Program to align with rebate programs and increase program participation



BOYNTON BEACH

ENERGY EDGE

REBATE PROGRAM



SUPPORTS RISK REDUCTION THROUGH RESIDENTIAL RETROFITS

Incentivizes improvements like impact windows and high-efficiency HVAC systems



ENGAGES AND INFORMS HOMEOWNERS

Serves as outreach and education tool with knowledge and funding



MITIGATES LONG-TERM TRANSITIONAL RISKS

Changes to preserve property value and insurability—climate-smart changes



ACTS AS A REGIONAL CASE STUDY

Demonstrates replicable local adaptation initiative

RESILIENCE



Questions?

Thank you!

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